[29th March 1928

Mr. R. Nagan Gowda :—" May I know whether any report was called for from Bombay and Mysore where this system is prevailing ? "

The hon. Dr. P. Subbarayan :—" No, Sir."

Mr. P. Bhaktavatsulu Nayudu :—" Do the Government propose to drop the matter there ? "

The hon Dr. P. Subbarayan :—" Government have already decided that no further action need be taken."

Mr. R. Nagan Gowda :—" May I know if the existing method of voting is better than the one suggested ? "

The hon. Dr. P. Subbarayan :—" Certainly."

Issue of badges for bus-drivers by the President, Chingleput District Board.

* 1812 Q.—Mr. Ramanath Goenka : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the President of the Chingleput District Board issued badges for bus-drivers and conductors on payment of a fee of Rs. 4 per set and insisted upon their wearing them ;

(*b*) under what authority the President issued the badges and under what powers he insisted on the drivers and conductors wearing or carrying them ; and

(*c*) whether this practice has been abandoned, and if so, when and why ?

A.—(*a*) To the first part of this question the answer is 'yes,' to the second part 'no.'

(*b*) The district board sanctioned the provision of badges. They may be purchased at the option of bus-owners.

(*c*) No.

The Raja of Ramnad :—" With reference to the answer to clause (*b*), may I know whether it is competent for the district board to introduce these badges ? "

The hon. the President :—" That is calling for an opinion "

The Raja of Ramnad :—" May I know under what authority or power the district board has introduced these badges ? "

The hon. Dr. P. Subbarayan .—" There is no question of authority or power at all ; the board did it under the residuary powers they possess."

The Raja of Ramnad :—" May I know whether these conductors and bus-owners are prosecuted if they do not purchase these badges ? "

The hon. Dr. P. Subbarayan :—" No, Sir, the purchase of these things is optional."